

History 346

Bodies, Race, and Rights:

Sex and Citizenship in the United States 1865 to the Present

Spring 2019

Professor K. Brown

Teaching Assistants:

What did it mean to be a man or woman in the post-Civil War United States? Was being a man the same as being a citizen? If African-American men were to be fully embraced as both men and citizens in the aftermath of slavery, where did that leave women, white and black? Why did a nation built on immigration become so hostile to certain groups of immigrants during this period? In this course, we consider how the meanings and experiences of womanhood, manhood, citizenship, and equality before the law changed from the period immediately after the Civil War until the present day. We look at political battles over the meaning of citizenship, the use of terror to subdue African Americans politically and economically, and the fears of white Americans that they would lose their political and economic dominance to immigrant groups they deemed irreconcilably different from themselves. We also consider the repercussions of these conflicts for medical, legal, and economic efforts to regulate the bodies of women, children, poor people, immigrants, working class laborers, military men, and African Americans. Throughout the course, we will follow the state's changing use of racial, sexual, and economic categories to assess the bodily and intellectual capacities of different groups of citizens. We will also note some of the popular cultural expressions of manhood, womanhood, and citizenship. The lectures and reading assignments are organized around a series of historical problems, dynamic leaders, and controversies that illuminate these issues. In our final weeks of class we will consider the impact of economic inequality, racism, and sexism upon health, the popularity of DNA testing for family history, and the reasons for the resistance to the transgender rights movement.

Course requirements:

- Completion of weekly reading assignments and lecture attendance (failure to attend lecture regularly could hurt your final grade)
- recitation attendance and participation (20%)
- three memos (3-4 pages) (30%)
- mid-term paper (7-8 pages) (20%)
- take-home final examination (30%)

Books available for purchase at Penn Book Store

Royster, ed., Southern Horrors and Other Writings

Argersinger, ed. The Triangle Fire

Ambrose, Band of Brothers

MacLean, The American Women's Movement

Heath Fogg Davis, Beyond Trans: Does Gender Matter?

All other readings marked (C) are on CANVAS**UNIT 1 After Slavery**

Wed. Jan. 15 (Monday class schedule)

Mon. Jan. 20 Martin Luther King Day NO CLASSES

Wed. Jan. 22 Reading due:

- Dudden, Fighting Chance (61-188) (C)
- Hannah Rosen, "A Riot and a Massacre," (C)
- 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments (C)

UNIT 2 Free Love and Vice

Mon. Jan. 27

Wed. Jan. 29 Reading due:

- Frisken, Victoria Woodhull's Sexual Revolution (24-116) (C)
- Woodhull "And the Truth Shall Set You Free" (51-65)(C)
- Woodhull "The Naked Truth; or, The Situation Reviewed!" (125-146) (C)

UNIT 3 Fighting Terror

Mon. Feb. 3

Wed. Feb. 5 Reading due:

- Southern Horrors (selection)

- Wells documentary film clip

***UNIT 4 Public Health (heavy reading week)**

Mon. Feb. 10

Wed. Feb. 12 Reading due:

- Willich, Pox (1-14, 211-285, skim 285-end)(C)
- Leavitt, Typhoid Mary (1-38, 70-125) (C)

UNIT 5 Sweatshops

Feb. 17

Feb. 19 Reading due:

- The Triangle Fire
- Tax, "Uprising of the 30,000" (C)
- Documentary film clip in class from PBS New York

***UNIT 6 The Sporting Life (heavy reading week)**

Mon. Feb. 24

Wed. Feb. 26 Reading due:

- Pascoe, What Comes Naturally (131-191) (C)
- Putney, Muscular Christianity (1-45) (C)
- Wood, Freedom of the Streets (132-185, 213-244) (C)
- The Mann Act (1910) (C)
- Emma Goldman, "Love and Marriage," (C)
- Emma Goldman, "Traffic in Women" (C)
- film clip in class from "Unforgivable Blackness"

***UNIT 7 Regulating Motherhood (heavy reading week)**

Mon. Mar. 3

Wed. Mar. 5 Reading due:

- Engelman, A History of the Birth Control Movement (1-139) (C)

- Muller v. Oregon (1908) (C)
- Roberts, Killing the Black Body (56-103) (C)
- Emma Goldman, "Social Aspects of Birth Control," (C)

SPRING BREAK

UNIT 8 Migrations

Mon. Mar. 17

Wed. Mar. 19 Reading due:

- Arneson, "Introduction," Black Protest and the Great Migration, (1-43) (C)
- Birn, "Six Seconds Per Eyelid," (C)
- Mai Ngai, "The Architecture of Race in American Immigration Law" (C)
- Markel and Stern, "The Foreignness of Germs" (1st third of article assigned) (C)
- Grace Abbott, "The Immigrant and the Public Health" from Urban Chicago Experience site (C)
- "Natural Intelligence Measures" and 1922 Intelligence chart (C)

UNIT 9 Does the State define women as Mothers, Workers, or Voters?

Mon. Mar. 24

Wed. Mar. 26 Reading due:

- Boris, "The Power of Motherhood" (C)
- 19th Amendment to the Constitution (C)
- Margaret Jacobs, chapters 4 and 7, White Mother to a Dark Race, 149-192, 281-327 (C)
- Sheppard-Towner Act (1921) (C)
- Alice Kessler-Harris, "In the Nation's Image" (C)
- Proposed Equal Rights Amendment (C)

UNIT 10 White Veterans as Model Citizens

Mar. 31

April 2 Reading Due:

- Band of Brothers (selection)
- Film clip from L.C. "Rosie the Riveter," Sheridan Harvey (C)

- Film clip in class from “Band of Brothers”
- Film clip in class from Tuskegee airman archives, UCRiverside
- Executive Order 9066 (C)
- Japanese Relocation images (C)
- Relocation poster and “A Life in the Relocation Centers” (C)

UNIT 11 Transformations in American Manhood

April 7

April 9 Reading Due:

- Howard Chiang (C)
- Steven Watts, Mr. Playboy, 69-142 (C)
- Ruth Feldstein, “I Wanted the Whole World to See,” from Not June Cleaver, 263-303 (C)

UNIT 12 Redefining Citizenship

Mon. April 14

Wed. April 16 Reading Due:

- Nancy MacLean, The American Women’s Movement
- Text of Brown v. Board (C)
- Text of Loving v. Virginia (C)
- Text of portions of Title IX (C)
- Text of Griswold v. Connecticut (C)
- Text of portions of Roe v. Wade (C)
- Rapp and Ginsburg, “Enabling Disability: Rethinking Kinship, Remagining Citizenship” in Public Culture 13 (2001) (C)

UNIT 13 Poverty, Race, Health

Mon. April 21

Wed. April 23 Reading due:

- Radley, “Rising to the Challenge” (graphs of regional trends) (C)
- Michelle Alexander The New Jim Crow (excerpt on C)
- Patricia Smith, “The Price of Poverty,” (C)

- Huffington Post, “Why poor people’s bad decisions make perfect sense,” (C)
- Penn forum “Social Right to Health” (2013) (please watch first 35 minutes of video on C)
- Kim Drake, “Why might innocents make false confessions” (C)
- Seth Holmes, “Oaxacans like to work bent over” (C)
- Sarah Lochlann Jain, “Sentience and Slavery” in Injury: the Politics of Product Design and Safety Law (C)

UNIT 14 The Search for True Bodies and the Body’s Own Truths

Mon. April 28

Wed. April 30 Reading Due:

- Davis, Beyond Trans
- Hawks, “What Genealogical Testing Can’t Tell You” (C)
- Kenneth Plummer, Intimate Citizenship (excerpt) (C)
- Kate Bornstein, Gender Outlaws: The Second Generation (31-39, 54-59, 72, 83-88, 101-107) (C)
- Interview with Laverne Cox, “Orange is the New Black” (C)
- Reis, Bodies in Doubt, 115-162 (C)
- Film clip in class from Henry Louis Gates, “Finding Your Roots”